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LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF NEOLOGISMS

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Abstract: Neologisms represent a significant aspect of linguistic change and reflect the dynamic development of modern language. This article provides a comprehensive linguistic analysis of neologisms, focusing on their morphological, semantic, pragmatic, and sociolinguistic features. The study examines the main word-formation processes involved in neologism creation, including derivation, compounding, blending, conversion, and abbreviation. In addition, semantic neologisms arising from metaphorical extension and meaning shift are analyzed to demonstrate how existing lexical units adapt to new communicative needs. The article also explores the functional and pragmatic roles of neologisms in different types of discourse, such as media, professional, and everyday communication. By analyzing neologisms from a linguistic perspective, the study highlights their role in vocabulary expansion, language innovation, and the continuous evolution of linguistic systems.

Annotatsiya: Ushbu maqolada zamonaviy tilda neologizmlarning lingvistik tahlili keng yoritilgan. Neologizmlarning morfologik, semantik, pragmatik va sotsiolingvistik xususiyatlari tahlil qilinadi. So'z yasaliş jarayonlari, ma'no o'zgarishlari va yangi so'zlarning nutqda qo'llanishi ilmiy asosda izohlanadi. Tadqiqot neologizmlarning til taraqqiyotidagi ahamiyatini va lug'at boyligini rivojlantirishdagi rolini ochib beradi.

Аннотация: В статье представлен лингвистический анализ неологизмов в современном языке. Рассматриваются морфологические, семантические, прагматические и социолингвистические особенности неологизмов. Анализируются процессы словообразования, семантические изменения и функциональное использование новых слов в речи. Исследование подчеркивает роль неологизмов в развитии языка и обогащении словарного состава.

Keywords: Neologisms, linguistic analysis, word formation, semantic change, pragmatics, sociolinguistics, lexical innovation

INTRODUCTION

Language is a living system that constantly adapts to social, cultural, and technological changes. One of the most visible indicators of linguistic evolution is the emergence of neologisms. Neologisms are newly created lexical units or existing words that acquire new meanings to describe novel concepts, objects, and phenomena. The linguistic analysis of neologisms provides valuable insights into the mechanisms of vocabulary expansion and the internal structure of language.

In contemporary linguistics, neologisms are studied from various perspectives, including morphology, semantics, pragmatics, sociolinguistics, and lexicography. Linguistic analysis helps to identify the patterns and principles that govern the formation,



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usage, and integration of neologisms into the language system. This article aims to analyze neologisms from a linguistic standpoint, focusing on their structural, semantic, and functional characteristics.

Theoretical Framework of Neologism Studies

The study of neologisms occupies a significant place in lexicology. Linguists define neologisms as lexical items that are perceived as new by the speech community and have not yet been fully standardized. According to established linguistic theory, neologisms may be classified as lexical, semantic, or stylistic innovations.

Lexical neologisms refer to entirely new word forms, while semantic neologisms involve new meanings assigned to existing words. Stylistic neologisms are often created for expressive or artistic purposes, particularly in literary and media discourse. From a linguistic perspective, these distinctions are essential for understanding how neologisms function within the language system.

Morphological Analysis of Neologisms

Morphology plays a central role in the linguistic analysis of neologisms. Most neologisms are formed through productive word-formation processes that reflect the internal rules of a language. The most common morphological mechanisms include derivation, compounding, conversion, blending, and abbreviation.

Derivation involves the use of prefixes and suffixes to create new lexical items, such as digitalization, globalize, and unfriend. These neologisms demonstrate the productivity of affixation in modern English. Compounding, which combines two or more free morphemes, results in neologisms like crowdfunding, smartphone, and cybersecurity.

Blending is another productive process, particularly in informal and media language. Words such as brunch, smog, and netizen illustrate how parts of different words merge to create concise and expressive neologisms. Abbreviations and acronyms (AI, NFT, COVID) are especially common in scientific and technological discourse, where brevity and clarity are essential.

Semantic Analysis of Neologisms. Semantic change is a key aspect of neologism formation. In many cases, neologisms emerge not as new word forms but as new meanings of existing lexical units. This process, known as semantic neologization, reflects the adaptability of language to new realities.

For example, the word cloud has developed a new meaning related to digital data storage, while virus now refers not only to biological entities but also to computer malware. These semantic neologisms often arise through metaphor, metonymy, or functional extension. Linguistic analysis of semantic shifts reveals how speakers conceptualize new phenomena using familiar linguistic resources.

Pragmatic and Functional Aspects of Neologisms

From a pragmatic perspective, neologisms serve specific communicative purposes. They are often used to achieve precision, express novelty, or convey social identity. In professional and academic discourse, neologisms contribute to terminological accuracy, while in media and everyday communication they may perform expressive or persuasive functions.



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Neologisms also carry pragmatic meanings related to context, speaker intention, and audience perception. For instance, media-created neologisms often reflect evaluation or ideological stance, shaping public opinion. Linguistic analysis therefore considers not only the form and meaning of neologisms but also their pragmatic impact.

Sociolinguistic Dimensions of Neologisms

Neologisms are closely linked to social factors such as age, profession, education, and cultural background. Youth language, digital communities, and professional groups are particularly active in generating neologisms. Sociolinguistic analysis examines how neologisms spread across different social groups and how they contribute to language variation.

Globalization and intercultural communication have increased the influence of borrowing as a source of neologisms. Loanwords from English into other languages often enter as neologisms, especially in the fields of technology, business, and popular culture. This phenomenon highlights the interaction between linguistic systems at a global level.

Lexicographic Treatment of Neologisms

The inclusion of neologisms in dictionaries represents a crucial stage in their linguistic acceptance. Lexicographers rely on frequency, stability, and communicative relevance when deciding whether to record a neologism. Linguistic analysis assists lexicography by providing criteria for identifying and classifying new words. Dictionaries of neologisms and online lexical databases have become important tools for documenting language change. The lexicographic treatment of neologisms reflects both descriptive and normative approaches to language.

CONCLUSION

The linguistic analysis of neologisms reveals the complex interaction between language structure, meaning, and social usage. Neologisms emerge through productive morphological processes, semantic innovation, and pragmatic necessity, reflecting both internal linguistic mechanisms and external social influences. Their study contributes to a deeper understanding of language dynamics and vocabulary development.

As language continues to evolve in response to technological advancement and globalization, neologisms will remain a central focus of linguistic research. Comprehensive linguistic analysis is therefore essential for capturing the ongoing transformation of modern language.

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